

Daniel Jackson Birdsong, PhD, EdD

Assistant Professor of Counseling
School Counseling Major Coordinator
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Qualifications

- Nine years of education experience; five years of school counseling experience; four years of experience as an adjunct instructor; two year as a full-time faculty member
- Alabama State Department of Education Professional Educator Certification
 - Class B Certification in Choral Music Education (P-12)
 - Class A Certification in School Counseling (P-12)
 - Class AA Certification in School Counseling (P-12)
- Approved Clinical Supervisor (#3844)
- Licensed Professional Counselor (#3827)
- Licensed Professional Counselor – Supervisor (#SC03301)
- National Certified Counselor (#717568)
- National Certified School Counselor (#717568)
- Registered Play Therapist (#T5827)

Education

Doctor of Philosophy in Counselor Education and Supervision
University of Holy Cross | New Orleans, LA (05/23)

- Dissertation: *Professional Advocacy Among School Counselors in Alabama Programs of Distinction*

Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership
Samford University | Birmingham, AL (12/20)

- Dissertation: *Implementation and Support for Comprehensive School Counseling Programs: An Examination of Alabama Program of Distinction Recipients*

Educational Specialist in Counselor Education (School Counseling concentration)
Jacksonville State University | Jacksonville, AL (12/17)

- Action Research Project: *New Student Orientation Groups and Effective Student Transition*

Master of Education in Counseling (School Counseling concentration)
University of Montevallo | Montevallo, AL (5/16)

Bachelor of Music in Music Education (Choral Music concentration)
University of Montevallo | Montevallo, AL (5/13)

Additional Training

Alabama Board of Examiners in Counseling Supervision Series Training (2/21)
ASCA National Model Training (1/19)

Experience

University of Montevallo, Graduate Counseling Program – Assistant Professor Montevallo, AL (08/21 – present)

- Coordinated CACREP-accredited school counseling major
- Courses taught: Assessment in Counseling, Collaborative Systemic Interventions for Children, Counseling Internship, Counseling Practicum, Family Life Skills and Consultation, Pre-Practicum in Interpersonal Skills, School Counseling, and School Counseling Program Management
- Provided advisement for all school counseling-track students

Warrior Wellness Group, LLC – Licensed Professional Counselor Alabaster, AL (01/22 – present)

- Provided part-time counseling and educational consultation services for individuals (children, adolescents, and adults), couples, and families
- Credentialed Alabama provider through American Behavioral, BlueCross/Blue Shield, Cigna, Medicaid, New Directions, United Health Care, and Viva Health

University of Montevallo, Graduate Counseling Program – Adjunct Instructor Montevallo, AL (8/17 – 7/21)

- Taught Collaborative Systemic Interventions for Children, Counseling Practicum, and School Counseling in the College of Education and Human Development
- Delivered instruction through traditional, hybrid, and online formats using instructional technology including Canvas, Zoom, and Microsoft Teams
- Provided individual and group university supervision to practicum students in the Graduate Counseling Program

Alabaster City Schools, Creek View Elementary School – School Counselor Alabaster, AL (7/16 – 6/21)

- Designed and implemented Peer Helpers Program benefitting all students
- Coordinated and presented “Coffee with the Counselors” parent presentations
- Conducted individual and small group counseling including groups for testing-taking skills, grief support, anger management, friendship skills, self-concept, divorce support, anxiety support, and school success
- Coordinated and assisted with school-wide Career Days for all grade levels
- Provided community resource support to students and families through various local agencies and ministries
- Chaired Counseling Advisory Committee and participated in the Leadership Team and Safety Committee
- Served as Building Test Coordinator for assessments including AAA, ACAP Alternative, ACAP, ACCESS, Alternative ACCESS, ACT Aspire, and Scantron Performance Series

Shelby County Schools – School Counseling Practicum/Internship Helena, AL (8/15 – 5/16)

- Provided individual, small group, and classroom counseling at Helena Elementary School, Helena Middle School, and Helena High School

- Support professional school counselors in implementation of comprehensive school counseling program

**Jefferson County Schools, McAdory High School – Choir Teacher
McCalla, AL (8/13-5/15)**

- Performed in competitions, festivals, and on local television
- Traveled across Southeast
- Successfully completed fundraisers boosting choral budget
- Successfully prepared students to participate in All County and All State Festivals
- Received multiple grants including Jefferson County Foundation and Grammy Foundation Community Award
- Additionally, taught Music Appreciation and Career Preparedness

Membership in Professional Organizations:

- Alabama Association for Counselor Education and Supervision
- Alabama Association for Play Therapy
- Alabama Association of Marriage and Family Counselors
- Alabama Counseling Association
- Alabama Mental Health Counseling Association
- Alabama School Counselor Association
- American Counseling Association
- American School Counselor Association
- Association for Counselor Education and Supervision
- Association for Play Therapy
- Chi Sigma Iota National Counseling Honor Society
- Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision

Publications

Birdsong, D. J. (2023). *Professional advocacy among school counselors in Alabama programs of distinction*. (Publication No. 30420205) [Doctoral dissertation, University of Holy Cross]. ProQuest Dissertations and Theses Global.

Birdsong, D. J. (2023, March). Making a difference every day. *Alabama School Counselor*, 7(4).

Birdsong, D. J. (2022, November). Seeking clarity together. *Alabama School Counselor*, 7(3).

Birdsong, D. J. (2022, September). Supporting your important work. *Alabama School Counselor*, 7(2).

Birdsong, D. J. (2022, May). Owning our narrative. *Alabama School Counselor*, 7(1).

Birdsong, D. J. (2022, April). The struggle with self-care. *Alabama School Counselor*, 6(5), 7.

Birdsong, D. J. (2022). Meeting them where they are: A school counselor's reflection on the COVID-19 pandemic. *Alabama Counseling Association Journal*, 44(1), 60-63.

http://www.alamacounseling.org/uploads/1/2/3/9/123960750/alca_journal_vol_44_issue_1.pdf

Birdsong, D. J., & Yakimowski, M. E. (2021). Principal and counselor support for comprehensive counseling program implementation. *Alabama Journal of Educational Leadership*, 8(1).

https://www.icpel.org/uploads/1/5/6/2/15622000/ajel_volume_8_2021.pdf

Birdsong, D. J. (2021, April). From RAVE to RAMP: A school counselor's journey of ASCA model implementation. *Alabama School Counselor*, 5(5), 2-3.

Birdsong, D. J. (2021). *Implementation of and support for comprehensive school counseling programs: An examination of Alabama program of distinction recipients*. (Publication No. 28152117) [Doctoral dissertation, Samford University]. ProQuest Dissertations and Theses Global.

Birdsong, D. J. (2021). Implementation of and support for comprehensive school counseling programs: An examination of Alabama program of distinction recipients. *Eye on Research: Using Evidence for Curriculum & Instructional Decisions*, 1(4). https://clasleaders.org/docs/default-source/friday-updates/eye-on-research/eye-on-research-4.pdf?sfvrsn=953f0224_2

Presentations

- Birdsong, D. J.** (2023). Professional advocacy for school counseling. *Alabama School Counselor Association Critical Issues in Alabama Schools Conference*. Montevallo, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.** (2022). MTSS: Aligning programs for student success. *Alabama Counseling Association Conference*. Mobile, AL.
- Bryant, J., Tuttle, M., & **Birdsong, D. J.** (2022). Building partnerships for success: Integrating the roles of the principal and school counselor in graduate preparation programs. *Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration Annual Conference*. Tuscaloosa, AL.
- Bryant, J., Tuttle, M., **Birdsong, D. J.**, & Mecedon-Mann, M. (2022). School counselor and principal partnerships: Supporting the needs of our students. *Council for Leaders in Alabama Schools (CLAS) Convention*. Birmingham, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.** (2021). Thinking theoretically: Counseling theories for children and adolescents. *Alabama Counseling Association Conference*. Birmingham, AL.
- Yakimowski, M. E., MacKinnon, C., DeJarnette, N., & **Birdsong, D. J.** (2021). College student wellbeing during (and after) the COVID-19 pandemic: Sharing and borrowing effective strategies that work. *New England Educational Assessment Network Fall Forum*. Virtual.
- Birdsong, D. J.** (2021). Principal and counselor support for comprehensive counseling program implementation in Alabama. *Alabama Association of Professors of Educational Leadership Spring Conference*. Virtual.
- Birdsong, D. J.** (2020). Implementation of and support for comprehensive school counseling programs. *Alabama Counseling Association Conference*. Virtual.
- Birdsong, D. J.**, Hinton, V. D., Mack, M., & Motley, M. (2019). Professional advocacy through service: Leadership opportunities in ALCA. *Alabama Counseling Association Conference*. Montgomery, AL.
- Baldwin, A. G., **Birdsong, D. J.**, Elkins, H., & Smith, K. (2019). Beyond certification lines: Community mental health and school counselor collaboration. *Alabama School Counselor Association Critical Issues for Alabama Schools Conference*. Birmingham, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.** (2017). *How do you drive? Utilizing google drive and other productivity apps to boost your effectiveness and efficiency as a school counselor*. Alabama Counseling Association Annual Conference. Mobile, AL.

Workshops

- Birdsong, D. J.**, & Waddell, C. (2023). Announcing a successful marriage: The library and doctoral student. *Samford University's Educational and Organizational Leadership Doctoral Candidate Institute*. Birmingham, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.** (2022). Counseling approaches and techniques for speech language pathologist. *Clinical Assessment and Counseling*. University of Montevallo. Montevallo, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.**, Bruno, P., & Yakimowski, M. E. (2022). The ABCs of APA: Text citations, reference entries, and tables made easier. *Samford University's Educational and Organizational Leadership Doctoral Candidate Institute*. Birmingham, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.**, Wade, K., & Yakimowski, M. E. (2021). Wow—accessing great resources for your dissertation. *Samford University's Educational and Organizational Leadership Doctoral Candidate Institute*. Birmingham, AL.

- Birdsong, D. J.,** Hall, K., Jordan, C., Ware, L., & Williams, J. J. (2021). Your dissertation journey: Wise advice from those who have been successful. *Samford University's Educational and Organizational Leadership Doctoral Candidate Institute*. Birmingham, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.,** Heard, W. T., & Yakimowski, M. E. (2021). Tips for success in doctoral studies. *Samford University's Educational and Organizational Leadership Doctoral Program Orientation*. Birmingham, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.** (2021). Ethical and legal issues for the school setting. *Organization and Administration of Counseling Services*. Jacksonville State University. Jacksonville, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.,** Edwards, M., Jemison, A. M., & Stapler, B. (2021). Advice based upon self-reflection: Graduates reveal how to make the dissertation journey successful. *Samford University's Educational Leadership Doctoral Candidate Institute*. Birmingham, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.,** Jemison, A. M., Morgan, S., Reid, T., & Yakimowski, M. E. (2021). Preparing for the proposal and final defenses: Demystifying five myths and taking the mystery out of the process. *Samford University's Educational Leadership Doctoral Candidate Institute*. Birmingham, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.** (2021). Comprehensive school counseling program implementation: Connecting data to programming. *Mobile County Public Schools Winter Counseling Professional Learning Workshop*. Virtual.
- Birdsong, D. J.,** Edwards, M., & Yakimowski, M. E. (2020). Effective quantitative communication: Tips to consider in narrative and tabular presenting descriptive and inferential results. *Samford University's Educational Leadership Doctoral Candidate Institute*. Birmingham, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.,** Hall, K., Morgan, S., Wade, K., & Yakimowski, M. E. (2020). Preparing for the defense: Hear the scoop from a chair and doctoral candidates. *Samford University's Educational Leadership Doctoral Candidate Institute*. Birmingham, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.** (2020). Ethical and legal issues for the school setting. *Professional, Ethical, & Legal Issues in Counseling*. University of Montevallo. Montevallo, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.** (2020). Ethical and legal issues for the school setting. *Organization and Administration of Counseling Services*. Jacksonville State University. Jacksonville, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.,** Wilbanks, M. A., & Yakimowski, M. E. (2020). From expectations to actualizing: The doctoral candidate and chair perspectives. *Samford University's Educational Leadership Doctoral Candidate Institute*. Birmingham, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.** (2019). Ethical & legal issues for school counseling site supervisors. *Jacksonville State University's Annual Counseling Program Site Supervisors Training*. Jacksonville, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.** (2019). Classroom management and behavior consultation. *Chi Sigma Iota Counseling Honors Society*. University of Montevallo. Montevallo, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.** (2019). What's the difference? Understanding IDEA and Section 504. *Chi Sigma Iota Counseling Honors Society*. University of Montevallo. Montevallo, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.** (2018). How do you drive? Utilizing google drive and other productivity apps to boost your effectiveness and efficiency as a school counselor. *Shelby County Schools Counselors' Professional Development Workshop*. Alabaster, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.** (2017). Integrating google drive in school counseling management. *Alabaster City Schools Back-to-School District Counselor Meeting*. Alabaster, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.** (2017). Management and organization in school counseling. *Collaborative Systemic Interventions for Children*. University of Montevallo. Montevallo, AL.
- Birdsong, D. J.** (2017). Use of assessments in school counseling. *Assessments in Counseling*. University of Montevallo. Montevallo, AL.

Honors & Awards

- University of Holy Cross Outstanding Qualitative Dissertation Award (2023)

- National Certified School Counselor Award (2021)
- Recognized American School Counselor Association Model Program Award (2021)
- Center for Credentialing & Education Approved Clinical Supervisor Training Award (2021)
- Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction (2020)
- Alabama State Department of Education National Board-Certified Teacher Component Grant (2020)
- Alabama Senate Resolution Commending Daniel Birdsong and Rebekah Hughey on Qualifying Creek View Elementary School for the Recognition of Accountability, Verification, and Excellence Award – Senator Ward (2019)
- Recognition of Accountability, Verification, and Excellence Award- Gold (2019)
- Alabama Counseling Association Emerging Leader Award (2018)
- Alabaster City Schools School Counselor of the Year (2018)
- Recognition of Accountability, Verification, and Excellence Award- Silver (2018)
- University of Montevallo’s Fifteen Under Fifteen Award (2022)
- University of Montevallo Graduate Counseling Program Outstanding Alumni Award (2018)
- Asa Sparks Alabama New School Counselor of the Year (2017)
- Recognition of Accountability, Verification, and Excellence Award- Bronze (2017)

Service

State

Alabama Counseling Association

- ALSCA Liaison (5/23 – present)
- ALSCA Affiliate President (5/22 – 4/23)
- Emerging Leader (5/19 – 4/20)

Alabama School Counselor Association

- Immediate Past President (5/23 – present)
- President (5/22 – 4/23)
- President-Elect (5/21 – 4/22)
- President-Elect Elect (5/20 – 4/21)
- Vice President for Elementary School Counseling (5/20 – 4/21)
- Budget and Finance Committee (5/20 – present)
- Awards Luncheon Committee Chair (5/16 – 4/20)
- Bylaws Committee (5/17 – present)
- Elections Committee (5/17 – 4/18, 5/19 – present)
- Professional Recognition Chair (5/18 – 4/20)
- Professional Development Committee (5/15 – present)

K-12 – Creek View Elementary School

- 504 Team (7/16 – 5/21)
- AdvancED (Cognia) Reaccreditation Team (7/20 – 11/20)
- Comprehensive, Integrated Three-Tiered Model of Prevention Implementation Team (7/19 – 5/21)
- Counseling Program Advisory Council (7/16 – 5/21)
- Leadership Team (7/16 – 5/21)
- Referral Eligibility Meeting Team (7/16 – 5/21)
- Safety Committee (7/16 – 5/21)
- School Improvement Team (7/19 – 5/21)

- Warrior Support Team (7/16 – 5/21)

Higher Education – University of Montevallo

- Assistant Professor of Educational Research Faculty Search Committee Member (10/22 – 3/23)
- Faculty Senate College of Education and Human Development representative (3/22 – present)
- Faculty Grievance Committee (8/22 – present)
- Graduate Counseling Program Advisory Council member (8/17 – present)
- Student Basic Needs Task Force (9/21 – present)
- University Conduct Council (8/22 – present)

Vita updated May 15, 2023